

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1991 - SB 2468

February 6, 2018

SUMMARY OF BILL: Expands the authority of adopting agencies to use forfeited deposits to purchase other items such as food and medications, and for upgrading animal housing areas.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Other Fiscal Impact – Local governments supporting publicly-funded adoption agencies could experience a reduction in expenditures if forfeited deposits retained by the adoption agency reduce needed appropriations. The extent and timing of any such impact cannot be reasonably determined because they are dependent upon unknown factors.

Assumptions:

- Tennessee Code Annotated § 44-17-502 requires any person adopting a dog or cat to have the pet spayed or neutered. Tennessee Code Annotated § 44-17-503 requires the person adopting the pet to leave a deposit of \$25 with the adopting agency if the pet is not spayed or neutered when the person adopts the pet.
- The adopting agencies keep these deposits in a fund, and the funds are forfeited if the person adopting the pet does not have the pet spayed or neutered or does have the pet spayed or neutered, but fails to request the return of the deposit within 10 days after the spaying or neutering.
- The adopting agencies, except those in Hawkins County, must use the forfeited funds to conduct spay and neuter programs.
- The proposed legislation authorizes the adopting agencies to use the forfeited deposits to purchase food, medications, tests, and upgrades to the housing areas, or any other supplies or products that would improve the quality of life of the pets.
- Some pet adoption agencies are publicly-funded by local governments. If any publicly-funded adoption agency retained sufficient funds, then the applicable local government entity could reduce its expenditures by reducing funding provided to such agencies. Otherwise, retaining of such deposits results in additional revenue to the agencies. However, the extent or timing for any such impacts cannot be determined because such impacts are dependent upon subsequent actions taken respective local legislative bodies.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Krista M. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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